



CHEVRON

MARINE CORPS RECRUIT DEPOT SAN DIEGO

AND THE WESTERN RECRUITING REGION

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Joyce Van Tol, a participant in the Boot Camp Challenge, receives boot-camp style motivation from Staff Sgt. George L. Vega, drill instructor, Support Battalion, during the push-up portion of the 3-mile obstacle race. See story, pg. 4. Lance Cpl. James Green/Chevron

Recruits leave for 'field trip' at Pendleton

BY LANCE CPL. JAMES GREEN
Chevron staff

After four weeks of transition from civilian to recruit, Company L headed north to Marine Corps Base Camp Pendleton, Calif., to start the evolution of recruit to warrior. As first phase came to an end, the recruits were bused to Edson Range aboard Camp Pendleton where they learned the basic infantry tactics along with land navigation and marksmanship skills, said Sgt. Keish A. Levingston, Company L, Platoon 3029.

The 45-minute bus ride from the depot seemed to last a lot longer to the recruits who had no idea of where they were going due to their heads being placed between their knees. "The recruits place their heads down on the bus as part of the process to instill discipline," said Staff Sgt. Jorge J. Maleno, senior drill instructor, Company I, Platoon 3035. "When a drill instructor tells them to do something they are not used to doing, it builds their instant obedience to orders.

"Human nature brings curiosity. It makes us wonders what is going on and why. Not allowing the recruits to look around and talk, helps in the development of making disciplined warriors," he added.

Edson Range, home to Weapons and Field Training Battalion, is used as a training facility for recruits to learn the skills that keep them alive in the field, said Levingston. The Crucible, a 54-hour event comprised of all the material learned in boot camp up to the eighth week of training, also takes place there.

Although there were many changes that came along with the move to Edson Range, the recruits seemed to adjust to them a lot easier than they did when they arrived at the depot.

"Knowing what was expected of me from the drill instructors and having already overcome a lot of my fears made the trip up north easier," said Pvt. Gabriel Huerta,

Platoon 3029. "Also, knowing the daily routine made me more confident in my abilities to perform tasks without making mistakes."

With more seasoned recruits, the drill instructors of Company L changed their focus. While they were still hard on the recruits as far as discipline and attention to orders, the focus of their instruction turned to practical application. "Discipline really comes in place when loaded weapons and open spaces are involved," said Levingston. "The recruits must follow directions and pay attention to avoid accidents or getting lost in the field during night hikes."

Changes as far as eating, sleeping and training habits were also made. With most of the field training conducted in the field, the chow hall was not used nearly as much as it is on the depot, said Levingston.

Being constantly on the move during Field Week and the Crucible also made it difficult to sleep as much as they did at the barracks. They had approximately 40 miles of ground to cover in 54 hours on the Crucible alone.

With all of the hikes the recruits conquered while in Camp Pendleton, it was necessary for them to hydrate more often. "The main reason behind all of the changes that were made was to teach the recruits how to conduct themselves at war," said Levingston.

The field training the recruits received while up north will prove very necessary, especially right now, said Levingston. Most of the basic knowledge of infantry skills the recruits learn before going to their units are established in recruit training.

After the strenuous month of field and marksmanship training, the recruits returned to the depot, four weeks closer to the goal of earning the title Marine.

Only with the discipline and knowledge instilled in each recruit in Marine Corps boot camp will an individual earn the title of the few and the proud. The recruits graduate today as basically trained Marines, and take with them all of the skills they put to the test at Edson Range.

Five decades of Marine Corps music come together at Boot Camp Challenge

BY LANCE CPL. JAMES GREEN
Chevron staff

The depot opened its doors for the annual Boot Camp Challenge Oct. 7, which drew many people together for a Marine Corps experience.

Paul Durso, a Vietnam War veteran and former Marine Corps bandsman, competed in the depot's challenge, while three of his friends stood on the sidelines and cheered him on. The four men reunited at the depot to relive their memories of being stationed here.

"We used this event as an excuse to come together," said Durso, who lives in the San Diego area.

Durso competed in the three-mile obstacle run while he was rooted on by former Marine Corps bandsmen Steven R. Schweitzer and Donald Versaw, and former depot drill instructor Bill Miller.

Schweitzer, Versaw and Durso represent more than 50 years of music in the Marine Corps.

From 1939 until 1959, Versaw served in the Marines as a French horn player and bugler. He was a member of Marine Band San Diego in January 1940 before deploying to China in August of that same year.

When World War II broke out, Versaw fought for six months with 2nd Battalion, 4th Marines before being captured by the Japanese. He remained a prisoner of war for the next 40 months.

"Had we known more of what ordeals were yet to come, the danger and terror of being prisoners of war, we might have elected more bombs and shells instead," said Versaw, who also wrote about his experiences in his book "The Last China Band."

After the war, Versaw stayed in the Marine Corps until he retired as a master sergeant in 1959.

In 1948, Miller came into the Marine Corps at the age of 15 by altering a baptism certificate, which was a proof-of-age document, so that it stated he was of age to attend boot camp. Throughout his service in the armed forces he was one of the original martial arts

SEE Durso, pg. 2



HISPANIC HERITAGE MONTH

3

RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

With the depot pull-up record recently broken, a Company L recruit chased the sit-up record.

6

FLEET WEEK GOLF

Navy wins local enlisted golf tournament.

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Cpl. Kelly A. Wright leads elementary students on a stretching exercise during a Partnership in Education event. Lance Cpl. Robert W. Beaver/Chevron

Marines take Corps P.T. to school P.E.

BY LANCE CPL. ROBERT W. BEAVER
Chevron staff

Four depot Marines visited Holmes Elementary School in San Diego Oct. 3, to kick off the annual "Partnership in Education Program" with the San Diego School District.

The Marines participated in three physical education classes where they led the students in daily Marine Corps exercises such as push-ups, jumping jacks and muscle stretches.

They also participated in a game of Capture-the-Flag with the students after the warm-up exercises.

"Marines are really good role models for these students," said Katy Murphy, prep-time physical training specialist for Holmes Elementary. "They teach the children important things like teamwork and self-discipline. The students really love it when they visit."

According to the formal agreement with SDSD, the depot is responsible for providing schools with positive role models to participate in school functions and their physical education programs.

In return, the program helps build the Marine Corps relationship with the San Diego community.

"I think it's great that Marines volunteer their time for children," said Cpl. Kelly A. Wright, section non-commissioned officer in charge of the Traffic Management Office. "It reflects a positive image on the Marine Corps."

Effective Oct. 3, depot Marines will make bi-weekly visits every other Tuesday, to the SDSD schools of Holmes Elementary, Lindbergh-Schweitzer Elementary and Taft Middle School.

Service members interested in participating in the program, can call Sgt. Derrick Small, depot Public Affairs Office, at (619) 524-8724.

Durso, from pg. 1

instructors responsible for the manuscript of the hand-to-hand combat training manual, said Durso.

During his time in the Marine Corps, Miller, a Korean War veteran, served a tour as a drill instructor with Recruit Training Regiment's 1st Battalion, performed duty as a Marine security guard in Bangkok, Siam and Southeast Asia and spent two tours as a recruiter.

During recruiting duty, Miller was stationed in Bayonne, N.J., where he met and started to train the 15-year-old Durso for the New York, New Jersey High School Marine Corps Physical Fitness Championship.

"Paul walked into my judo-gym at Bayonne Naval Base, Bayonne, N.J., and six months later he was the New York, New Jersey High School Marine Corps Physical Fitness Champion," said Miller.

Although his time in the Marines expired at the age of 35, Miller's passion for martial arts did not. Today at the age of 73, he is an active martial arts Grandmas-

ter and 10th degree black belt and teaches military and civilian martial arts.

Durso, who enlisted in the Marine Corps in 1962, served initially as an infantryman before transferring to the band and discharging as a corporal in 1966. During his enlistment, he was a 3rd Marine Division band member and a depot band member.

Durso later became the Far East All-Marine Judo light-weight Champion in 1965 while stationed in Okinawa. While stationed at MCRD he became the runner-up All-Marine light-weight division in 1966 and Los Angeles heavy-weight karate champion in 1967 after discharging from the Marine Corps.

Still active in martial arts, Durso consults and teaches karate and judo when he is called upon for his services.

Schweitzer, the most recent active duty Marine of the four, joined the Marine Corps in 1978. Not only was he in the Marine Corps Band, he was the bandmaster on the depot. Throughout his more than 27 year

tour, he served here on the depot as well as Iraq, and many other places before retiring as a master gunnery sergeant in 2005.

After retirement he was a member of the Red Cross Operations Disaster Relief and was recognized by the governor of Louisiana and the Vice Admiral of the Coast Guard for his actions.

His most recent accomplishment was on April 4 when he donated blood platelets for the 100th time. A long time blood donor, Schweitzer donated platelets once a month for the last nine years, with the exception of his time in Iraq and the 18 months he was deferred upon his return.

Schweitzer is the president of the Marine Corps Music Association, where he first met Versaw and Durso during a musicians' reunion.

Four men, connected by nothing more than music and the Marine Corps, came together on a quest for adventure through the three-mile obstacle run. They left the depot with yet another memory and plan forward for the next annual Boot Camp Challenge.



From left to right, Donald Versaw, Paul Durso, Steven Schweitzer and Bill Miller attended the Boot Camp Challenge Saturday. The four former Marines were all once stationed at the depot. Only Durso participated, and he placed fifth in his age group. Lance Cpl. James Green/Chevron

BRIEFS

Military Women Veterans Luncheon

Join the 17th Annual Military Women Veterans Luncheon Nov. 4 at the Officer's Club, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif. Deadline for reservations is Oct. 20. To reserve a spot for the luncheon, contact Toni Lopez at (619) 462-6081.

MMOA monitors team visit

The Manpower Personnel Management Officer Assignments monitor team will visit the depot Oct. 23. There will be two presentations in Building 7W (8 to 9 a.m. - company grade, and 9:30 to 10:30 a.m. - field grade). All officers assigned to the depot are required to attend the briefings, which will include items of general interest to the officer corps including command screening, primary military education opportunities, and career development. Officers desiring to have a personal interview with counselors or monitors should submit their names to their respective unit adjutants. Interviews are restricted to officers with at least one year on station. For more information contact Minerva Edwards at (619) 524-8733.

Annual Retired Military Personnel Seminar and Resource Fair

The Annual Retired Military Personnel Seminar and Resource Fair is scheduled for Nov. 4 from 8:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. at the depot theater. It is open to all retired military personnel, their families and prospective military retirees. The event is free. If you plan to attend, RSVP by today by calling the Retired Activities Office at NAVBASE San Diego at (619) 556-8987 or the MCRD office at (619) 524-5301, or e-mail nrsrwao@navy.mil.

Voting assistance

Voting is our right and a civic responsibility. Its importance cannot be overstated. Take the time to vote in the General Elections on Nov. 7. You must be registered to vote so you can receive an absentee ballot. Unit Voting Assistance Officers can help you with registration. It's quick and easy. Please contact your UVAO if you would like to exercise your right to vote. Here are the UVAOs located aboard the depot:
Command/Installation: Ms. Botuchis at (619) 524-8735
Headquarters and Service Battalion: Capt. Serano at 524-1979
Recruit Training Regiment: Gunnery Sgt. Leese at 524-0367
12th Marine Corps District: Capt. Mestemacher at 524-5572

SEND BRIEFS TO
jess.levens@usmc.mil. The Chevron staff reserves the right to publish only those briefs that comply with Department of Defense regulations and the standards of the U.S. Government.



TRICARE helps pay where many other insurance providers cannot cover bills

BY MARK JECKER
TriWest Healthcare Alliance

Many of those in the military are covered by health care plans other than the military's TRICARE program because their husbands or wives have coverage through civilian employers, but that doesn't mean both plans will pay all the bills.

TRICARE pays second to this "Other Health Insurance" in most cases, except for Medicaid, TRICARE supplements, the Indian Health Service or other programs/plans identified by the TRICARE Management Activity.

Take a look at the nuances: Medical bills for all health care services provided outside of a military treatment facility must be submitted to the OHI company first, before TRICARE benefits can be applied. A beneficiary who is not sure if his or her OHI is primary to TRICARE should call (888) TRIWEST.

TRICARE beneficiaries with OHI must complete a TRICARE Other Health Insurance (OHI) form and submit it to TriWest. A beneficiary who cancels OHI must also submit the same OHI form to inform TriWest of the cancellation. Forms are available at www.triwest.com ("Find a Form") or by calling (888) TRIWEST.

Beneficiaries must follow the OHI company's rules, including referral and authorization requirements, when receiving services outside of the MTF. Failure to do so could result in their TRICARE coverage being restricted or denied.

Once OHI has covered its portion of the claim, the beneficiary or provider may submit a TRICARE claim, which TriWest will review. If the OHI company's rules are followed, the beneficiary does not need a TRICARE pre-authorization, except for adjunctive dental care, organ transplants or behavioral health care services.

If the OHI doesn't pay the entire bill or doesn't pay at all, the beneficiary should send the bill and a copy of the OHI's explanation of benefits to West Region Claims, P.O. Box 77028, Madison, WI 53707-7028.

If TRICARE determines that it paid the beneficiary as the primary payer, when the OHI should have paid the claim, it will seek to recover that payment from the beneficiary.

TRICARE does not guarantee to pay the entire remaining bill. The total payment cannot be more than TRICARE allows.

For help contacting the OHI company or filing a secondary claim, call (888) TRIWEST or visit www.triwest.com.

National Hispanic Heritage Month honors past, present heroes unified under the nation's stars and stripes

BY STAFF SGT. JEFF JANOWIEC
Press chief

I had the pleasure of meeting retired Marine Corps Col. Jay R. Vargas at the Naval Medical Center San Diego a few months ago during the unveiling of an exhibit of Medal of Honor recipients at the hospital.

Talking with him, I found him to be very down-to-earth, humble and open about himself. He served in Vietnam and did some heroic deeds while over there. But as we talked about his actions during his time there he deferred all of what he did to the other men in his unit, those who fought for him; those who fought alongside him.

He came to mind this week particularly because of Hispanic Heritage Month, which ends on Sunday. I found it fitting to highlight him because he is the son of a Hispanic father and an Italian mother, who came to the United States in late 1917.

More than his heritage, however, I wanted to show the legacy he has left for fellow Americans — no matter the race, color or culture — to follow, a legacy of united brotherhood under one flag of the United States of America. This is a brotherhood that is sacrificial, selfless, victorious and devoted to compassion toward humanity, especially those we fight with and for.

The battlefield knows no colors other than the common red blood shed for the sake of freedom through the Constitution of the United States. Col. Vargas shed blood on the battlefield for his fellow American's, Marines and brothers.

The following is his citation from his heroic actions May 1, 1968. These actions epitomize the warrior spirit and the ultimate camaraderie forged through the undying, united American fighting spirit.

"The President of the United States in the name of The Congress takes pleasure in presenting the MEDAL OF HONOR to MAJOR JAY R. VARGAS, UNITED STATES MARINE CORPS for service as set forth in the following CITATION:

For conspicuous gallantry and intrepidity at the risk of his life above and beyond the call of duty while serving as Commanding Officer, Company G, Second Battalion, Fourth Marines, Ninth Marine Amphibious Brigade in action against enemy forces in the Republic of Vietnam from 30 April to 2 May 1968. On 1 May 1968, though suffering from wounds he had incurred



Ret. Col. Jay R. Vargas

while relocating his unit under heavy enemy fire the preceding day, Major (then Captain) Vargas combined Company G with two other companies and led his men in an attack on the fortified village of Dai Do. Exercising expert leadership, he maneuvered his Marines across 700 meters of open rice paddy while under intense enemy mortar, rocket and artillery fire and obtained a foot-

hold in two hedgerows on the enemy perimeter, only to have elements of his company become pinned down by the intense enemy fire. Leading his reserve platoon to the aid of his beleaguered men, Major Vargas inspired his men to renew their relentless advance, while destroying a number of enemy bunkers. Again wounded by grenade fragments, he refused aid as he moved about the hazardous area reorganizing his unit into a strong defense perimeter at the edge of the village. Shortly after the objective was secured, the enemy commenced a series of counterattacks and probes which lasted throughout the night but were unsuccessful as the gallant defenders of Company G stood firm in their hard-won enclave. Reinforced the following morning, the Marines launched a renewed assault through Dai Do on the village of Dinh To, to which the enemy retaliated with a massive counterattack resulting in hand-to-hand combat. Major Vargas remained in the open, encouraging and rendering assistance to his Marines when he was hit for the third time in the three day battle. Observing his battalion commander sustain a serious wound, he disregarded his excruciating pain, crossed the fire-swept area and carried his commander to a covered position, then resumed supervising and encouraging his men simultaneously assisting in organizing the battalion's perimeter defense. His gallant actions uphold the highest traditions of the Marines Corps and the United States Naval Service."

As Hispanic Heritage Month comes to a close, I believe we must pay attention to and appreciate what the Hispanic community has brought to America such as the service Col. Vargas gave to his country in the Marine Corps. But more importantly, I believe we should view this time as a month to reflect on and celebrate the unifying spirit of the American way of truth, justice and liberty through our Constitution.

2007 MCRD SAN DIEGO BIRTHDAY BALL SCHEDULE

Enlisted Ball (E-1 through E-5):

When: Nov. 4

Where: Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina

Price: \$10 for active duty personnel, \$25 for guests

Contact: Master Sgt. Coleman — (619) 524-6076

Officers Ball:

When: Nov. 11

Where: Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina

Price: \$50 for active duty personnel, \$65 for guests

Contact: Capt. Serano (H&S Bn.) — (619) 524-1979

Capt. Ashley (RTR) — (619) 524-0367

Enlisted Ball (E-6 through E-9):

When: Nov. 18

Where: Sheraton San Diego Hotel and Marina

Price: \$40 for active duty personnel, \$48 for guests

Contact: 1st Sgt. Slattery — (619) 524-5186

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The depot color guard presents the national and Marine Corps colors to Boot Camp Challenge racers for the playing of the national anthem . *Pic: Charlie Chavez/Chevron*

Civilians run as recruits at Boot Camp Challenge

BY PFC. CHARLIE CHAVEZ
Chevron staff

Thousands of motivated civilians and service members participated in Marine Corps recruit training for a day, at the depot's fifth annual Boot Camp Challenge, Oct. 7.

People came from all over the United States, including a group from Ewa Beach, Hawaii, to compete in the challenge. One group from Los Angeles also showed up for a team-building exercise.

After running the Camp Pendleton Mud Run a few months ago, Rayna Hiscox and her group of eight from the Veterinary Centers of America, West Los Angeles Animal Hospital, decided to try out the Boot Camp Challenge.

Their team, called "Muddy Paws," finished the grueling course together. Hiscox said they try to do team events every three months, and that the Boot Camp Challenge is on their radar for another future event.

Everyone who competed in the challenge was released from the starting line in four different categories, indi-

vidual male and female runners, three-person teams, and five person teams.

As they ran along the three-mile course, runners encountered various obstacles including bales of hay to climb over and the depot's bayonet assault course. Participants were motivated along by drill instructors who yelled at them to move expediently.

"It was awesome!" exclaimed Wendy Bram, individual runner and a resident of San Diego. "Marines are the bomb; I would definitely do this again."

As the last of the runners began to move through the course, the stragglers encountered the full experience of boot camp, as drill instructors swarmed around them like hornets.

"The best part was watching the civilians getting yelled at," said Sgt. Nick C. Bredehoft, Recruiters School student. "The race was set up very well, and I had a lot of fun."

Marine Corps Community Services planned the annual event and provided a vendor area after the challenge, which included free food, drinks and massages.

The depot barbershop even had their clippers in hand in a booth next to the main stage.

As the depot and Western Recruiting Region Commanding General Brigadier Gen. Angie Salinas handed out medals during the awards ceremony, a 15-year-old boy who had hair down to his shoulders received a Marine regulation haircut – trimming his hair almost down to the skin.

Sean Moulin, of Santa Monica, came to the depot for the challenge and was determined to finish the race and get his hair cut. His brother was the encouragement behind his head getting shaved.

"He came here and earned his hair cut," said Moulin's 33-year-old brother, Rob Stevenson, who is also from Santa Monica.

The Boot Camp Challenge gave an opportunity for civilians to experience the depot and for military servicemen to relive a little bit of boot camp. Next year's challenge is sure to be a success because of the motivation and support generated from the United State's patriotic people who love the competition.



Participants crawl through metal tubes on the depot's bayonet assault course during the 3-mile Boot Camp Challenge obstacle race. *Lance Cpl. James Green/Chevron*



Tri Nguyen, 24, of San Diego, tries out the recruiter's chin-up bar at the Boot Camp Challenge, he said he usually sleeps in on Saturdays, but had to get the challenge in for the experience. *Staff Sgt. Jeff Janowiec/Chevron*



Rayna Hiscox, a veterinarian with Veterinary Services of America in West Los Angeles, lets her feet take a break after running the grueling 3-mile course Oct. 7. *Staff Sgt. Jeff Janowiec/Chevron*



Tran Ha, depot barbershop, chops hair off of Sean Moulin, 15, of Santa Monica, Calif. Moulin's hair was down to his shoulders until he got a haircut. *Staff Sgt. Jeff Janowiec/Chevron*



Brig. Gen. Angie Salinas, commanding general, MCRD San Diego and the Western Recruiting Region, applauds the "recruit-for-a-day" racers after they finished this year's Boot Camp Challenge. *Staff Sgt. Jeff Janowiec/Chevron*



Pvt. Jason T. Pacheco, Platoon 3032, Company L, had to nurse a stress fracture in his leg during recruit training.

RECRUIT SPOTLIGHT

Company L graduate breaks depot crunch record after recovering from stress fracture

BY LANCE CPL. ROBERT W. BEAVER
Chevron staff

As the Marines of Company L walk across the Shepherd Memorial Drill Field today, one individual will leave having broken the depot’s crunch record by two repetitions.

During his company’s final physical training test, Pvt. Jason T. Pacheco, Platoon 3032, executed 260 crunches in two minutes.

“It’s amazing that he broke the record,” said Sgt. Rahine Smith, drill instructor, and a Columbus, Ohio native. “Not many people can do more than 200 crunches in two minutes.”

Pacheco, a Las Vegas, N.M., native, came to boot camp able to do 150 crunches in two minutes. He was active in high school sports and played just about everything that was offered, according to Pacheco.

“The sports I played in high school helped me out a lot,” said Pacheco. “But my drill instructors were the ones who really pushed me to succeed. Without their motivation, this may not have happened.”

Something happened to Pacheco during boot camp where he had to look to his drill instructors for their support.

During field week at Edson Range, his company



Pvt. Jason T. Pacheco became the depot crunch record-holder by knocking out 260 crunches in two minutes. Lance Cpl. James Green/Chevron photos

was conducting a night hike when he twisted his ankle, causing a stress fracture in his right leg.

He didn’t want to be dropped from training, so he attempted to hide his injury from his drill instructors, until it got worse.

He was recommended by medical personnel to be dropped from training due to his injury.

“When he was recommended to be dropped to the (Medical Rehabilitation Platoon), he came to me and said he wanted to try and stick it out,” said Staff Sgt. S. G. Moyer, senior drill instructor. “He was a ‘more than an average recruit’ throughout boot camp, so I made the decision to let him stay.”

His senior drill instructor kept his faith in Pacheco and let him stay in training, despite the injury to his leg. While he was on limited duty, as a result from his injury, he was unable to participate in some training events that involved the use of his legs.

However, before his injury, Pacheco had a high PFT score, including a run time of 19:30, which also convinced his senior drill instructor to let him stay.

After his injury healed, he came back, broke the crunches record and learned something about himself in the process.

“I joined the Marine Corps because I wanted to become a better person,” said Pacheco. “After I recov-

ered from my injury and broke the crunches record, I felt more confident in myself and now I feel like I can do anything.”

Pacheco had always wanted to join the Marine Corps since he was young. He had family members in the Marine Corps and he wanted the self-improvement that he saw in them.

His grandfather, Orlando Gonzales, was a Marine during the late 1950s, and he inspired Pacheco to make the decision to join the Marine Corps.

“My grandfather used to tell me stories about the Marine Corps,” said Pacheco. “He always conducted himself in a professional manner, and I have always wanted to be like that.”

Those stories motivated him to make his grandfather’s experiences his own. Pacheco said he wanted to become a Marine to gain more confidence in himself, to stay out of trouble, to gain more respect and responsibility in life and to become a better person overall.

“Jason always had a lot of heart when he was growing up,” said Gonzales, a Las Vegas, N.M., native. “Nothing makes me more proud than to see my grandson do what he’s doing. I think all young men should join the military service, because it makes them better people.”

Brig. Gen. Richard T. Tryon
PARADE REVIEWING OFFICER

Brigadier Gen. Richard T. Tryon enlisted in the Navy in 1970 and was commissioned a second lieutenant in the Marine Corps in June 1975, upon graduating from the U.S. Naval Academy.

Following The Basic School, he held a variety of company grade assignments in 3rd Battalion, 5th Marines, served as aide de camp to the commanding general I Marine Expeditionary Force, 1st Marine Division, and completed a tour as the Headquarters Company commander, 4th Marines in Okinawa, Japan in 1980.

He served at Recruiting Station New York until attending Amphibious Warfare School in 1983. He then joined 2nd Bn., 5th Marines where he served as company commander and operations officer. He attended the U.S. Army Command and General Staff College in 1987,

concurrently earning a master’s degree in management.

In 1988, he transferred to Special Operations Command, Europe, and was assigned as a contingency operations officer. He deployed in support of Operation’s Desert Shield and Desert Storm, where he served with the Joint Special Operations Task Force, Proven Force. Following Desert Storm, he deployed with Joint Special Operations Task Force Provide Comfort operating in Northern Iraq and Southern Turkey.

In 1991, he was assigned to the Special Operations Training Group, II MEF as director of the Special Missions Branch. In 1993, he assumed command of 2nd Bn., 8th Marines until 1995. He was then assigned to the Pentagon as the deputy executive assistant to the vice chairman of the Joint Chiefs of Staff until 1997. He attended The Johns Hopkins University School of Advanced International Studies and received a Master of Arts degree

in international public policy in 1998.

Brigadier Gen. Tryon served as commanding officer, 24th Marine Expeditionary Unit (Special Operations Capable) from 1998 to 2000 and as commanding officer, Marine Barracks, Washington D.C. from 2000 until 2002. From 2002 until 2004, he served as executive officer to the supreme allied commander, Europe/commander, U.S. European Command. From 2004 to 2006 Brig. Gen. Tryon served as the commanding general, Marine Corps Recruit Depot Parris Island and the Eastern Recruiting Region.

Brigadier Gen. Tryon’s personal decorations include the Defense Superior Service Medal (oak leaf), the Legion of Merit (gold star), the Defense Meritorious Service Medal, the Meritorious Service Medal (gold star), the Navy and Marine Corps Commendation Medal and the Navy and Marine Corps Achievement Medal.



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| Platoon 3026 COMPANY HONOR MAN Lance Cpl. K. L. Clawson Kennewick, Wash. Recruited by Staff Sgt. A. Belmonte | Platoon 3029 SERIES HONOR MAN Pfc. J. J. Huss Appleton, Wis. Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. B. A. Nerad | Platoon 3025 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. R. S. Hendley Midwest, Okla. Recruited by Sgt. S. A. Miears | Platoon 3027 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. F. Lopez III Round Rock, Texas Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. A. Campos | Platoon 3030 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. E. Garza Odessa, Texas Recruited by Staff Sgt. F. Ramirez | Platoon 3031 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. J. C. Iversen Missouri City, Texas Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. T. Scott | Platoon 3032 PLATOON HONOR MAN Pfc. S. C. Porter Kansas City, Mo. Recruited by Sgt. T. South | Platoon 3026 HIGH SHOOTER (240) Pfc. M. J. Lopez Vacaville, Calif. Marksmanship instructor Sgt. P. P. McCasserty | Platoon 3026 HIGH PFT (300) Pfc. D. J. Luke Beaverton, Oregon Recruited by Gunnery Sgt. D. Nash | |

LIMA COMPANY

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| THIRD RECRUIT TRAINING BATTALION <i>Commanding Officer</i> Lt. Col. R. W. Jones <i>Sergeant Major</i> Sgt. Maj. R. E. Eriksson <i>Chaplain</i> Lt. F. Munoz <i>Battalion Drill Master</i> Gunnery Sgt. I. T. Ramirez | Pfc. J. A. Jimenez Pfc. D. K. Johns Pvt. C. T. Johnston Pvt. N. P. Jones Pvt. M. D. Judy Pvt. R. O. King Pvt. B. C. Lane *Pfc. C. J. Laughlin Pfc. B. M. Loveless Pfc. D. A. Lucero *Pfc. A. R. Mann Pfc. K. S. O’Keefe Pvt. S. P. Olsen *Pfc. E. H. Ortiz Pvt. L. R. Petray Pvt. E. A. Rios Pvt. L. J. Skoglund Pvt. K. G. Warren | *Pfc. J. D. Roman Pvt. D. K. Ryan Pvt. K. N. Saetern Pvt. W. S. Sams Pvt. J. Sanchez Jr. Pvt. D. K. Sargent Pfc. J. D. Schmidt Pfc. S. K. Schoening Pvt. D. A. Sosa Pvt. S. J. Spitzmiller Pfc. T. R. Taylor | Pvt. J. W. Smith Pvt. R. Sorto Jr. Pvt. P. Torres Pvt. D. Valdez | PLATOON 3029 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Sgt. M. C. Button <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. R. Kolveck Sgt. K. A. Livingston Sgt. F. D. Velasquez | PLATOON 3027 <i>Senior Drill Instructor</i> Staff Sgt. J. S. Valerio <i>Drill Instructors</i> Sgt. S. Berkoz Sgt. M. T. Pirozzi Sgt. M. D. Tilus | *Pfc. A. R. Ahlers Pvt. D. Bahena Pfc. J. O. Barillas Pfc. A. Y. Bautista Pfc. S. W. Beaudette Pvt. B. A. Berman *Pfc. M. A. Bernal Pfc. M. M. Bolton Pfc. S. A. Edwards Pvt. J. A. Braaten *Pfc. T. Bradford Pfc. C. U. Castaneda Pvt. Z. Cheng Pfc. P. D. Craig Pvt. T. Creighton Pvt. R. Delgado Pvt. J. Daiz Pfc. G. A. Dolgner Pvt. R. Duranmunoz Pvt. D. J. Earp Pvt. M. Estrada Pvt. K. M. Fortney Pfc. B. J. Fratus Pvt. C. J. Fuentes Pvt. R. J. Gocke Pvt. A. R. Cardona Pvt. T. R. Carleton Pvt. C. J. Cartwright Pvt. J. S. Chastain Pvt. S. L. Coats Pvt. T. J. Cott Pvt. L. P. Crouch Pvt. R. Cruz Pvt. J. W. Dass Pvt. J. D. Jhannes Pvt. J. C. Kellemis Pfc. K. P. Kelly *Pfc. M. A. Kocina Pvt. K. S. Fields Cameron Pvt. J. J. Flair Pvt. A. L. Garcia Pvt. D. M. Garza Pvt. D. A. Garza Pfc. A. M. Gaytan Pvt. C. J. Gibson *Pfc. B. W. Griffiths Pvt. L. B. Gyenes Pvt. M. L. Hefflin Pfc. J. M. Hernandez Jr. Pvt. D. A. Herrera Jr. *Pfc. J. Huh Pfc. N. A. Hyland Pfc. N. P. Kennedy Pvt. B. K. Kidd Pfc. M. D. King Pvt. C. J. Knight Pvt. K. M. Lares Pfc. J. K. Lewis Pvt. M. B. Lewis Pvt. R. J. Longwell Pfc. F. Lopez III Pvt. J. L. Lowery Pvt. G. J. Loza Pfc. C. J. Mahoney Pfc. M. E. Mancha *Pfc. F. G. Martinez Pvt. R. C. Nelson Pvt. A. D. McAuley Pfc. V. Medina Jr. Pfc. R. T. Mejia Pfc. J. A. Michaud Pfc. L. Miller Jr. Pvt. D. R. Moore Pvt. M. D. Mowdy Pvt. K. C. Nwosu Jr. Pvt. J. M. Ochoa Pvt. D. S. Osborne Pvt. L. A. Ottenbacher Pfc. D. S. Portillo Pvt. D. D. Rodriguez *Pfc. N. R. Schoggins | Pvt. J. R. Alvelo Pfc. M. E. Assunto Pvt. J. B. Austin Pfc. R. A. Ayers Pvt. S. Baccam Pvt. S. A. Bargas Pvt. J. E. Barrios Pfc. A. B. Bass Pfc. T. L. Bernholtz Pvt. J. K. Blalock Pvt. J. C. Bosquez Pvt. A. J. Bowers Pvt. C. J. Burton Pfc. J. N. Burton Pvt. A. R. Cardona Pvt. T. R. Carleton Pvt. C. J. Cartwright Pvt. J. S. Chastain Pvt. S. L. Coats Pvt. T. J. Cott Pvt. L. P. Crouch Pvt. R. Cruz Pvt. J. W. Dass Pvt. J. D. Jhannes Pvt. J. C. Kellemis Pfc. K. P. Kelly *Pfc. M. A. Kocina Pvt. K. S. Fields Cameron Pvt. J. J. Flair Pvt. A. L. Garcia Pvt. D. M. Garza Pvt. D. A. Garza Pfc. A. M. Gaytan Pvt. C. J. Gibson *Pfc. B. W. Griffiths Pvt. L. B. Gyenes Pvt. M. L. Hefflin Pfc. J. M. Hernandez Jr. Pvt. D. A. Herrera Jr. *Pfc. J. Huh Pfc. N. A. Hyland Pfc. N. P. Kennedy Pvt. B. K. Kidd Pfc. M. D. King Pvt. C. J. Knight Pvt. K. M. Lares Pfc. J. K. Lewis Pvt. M. B. Lewis Pvt. R. J. Longwell Pfc. F. Lopez III Pvt. J. L. Lowery Pvt. G. J. Loza Pfc. C. J. Mahoney Pfc. M. E. Mancha *Pfc. F. G. Martinez Pvt. R. C. Nelson Pvt. A. D. McAuley Pfc. V. Medina Jr. Pfc. R. T. Mejia Pfc. J. A. Michaud Pfc. L. Miller Jr. Pvt. D. R. Moore Pvt. M. D. Mowdy Pvt. K. C. Nwosu Jr. Pvt. J. M. Ochoa Pvt. D. S. Osborne Pvt. L. A. Ottenbacher Pfc. D. S. Portillo Pvt. D. D. Rodriguez *Pfc. N. R. Schoggins | Pvt. N. Algaya Pvt. A. Andrade Pvt. J. D. Arthur Pvt. J. A. Baldwin Pfc. F. J. Betancourt Pvt. M. R. Blok Pfc. J. P. Bradtmueller Sgt. M. A. Cicerella Pvt. A. Duran Preciado Sgt. R. Kolveck Pvt. J. J. Fletcher Pvt. T. J. Foss *Pfc. S. J. Fraga Pfc. E. Garza Pfc. F. J. Genovise Pvt. T. B. Gillman *Pfc. N. J. Gonzalez Pvt. H. J. Gordillo Pvt. A. M. Gostlin Grant Pfc. F. D. Gutierrez Pfc. D. R. Hagenhoff Pfc. L. Harlander Pvt. A. R. Henika Pvt. B. H. Hicks Pfc. C. E. Hoag Pvt. M. U. Jahi Pfc. L. Jimenez Pfc. K. R. Johnson Pfc. C. J. Kaneshi Pvt. T. Kim Pvt. L. A. Kirmon Pvt. J. T. Kitashima Pvt. C. J. Knauf Pvt. T. C. Lee Pfc. R. A. LeViseur Pfc. D. S. Juauez Pfc. T. T. Mcnamara Pvt. K. M. Mecham Pvt. N. D. Meier Pvt. C. E. Meissen Pfc. M. Mercado Jr. Pvt. J. Miller Pvt. M. R. Morgan Pvt. G. M. Nielsen Pfc. E. Mena Pvt. Z. Noble Pfc. J. A. Odvina Pvt. S. M. Preston Pvt. K. R. Pullin *Pfc. A. R. Restifo Pvt. J. A. Romero Pvt. S. Root Pvt. W. J. Rutherford Pvt. T. R. Saderup Pvt. M. A. Sahagun Pvt. J. I. Sanchez Pfc. D. J. Seely *Pfc. C. D. Seidel Pfc. A. C. Seif Pfc. K. J. Sherman Pvt. C. A. Smith Pvt. S. E. Staats Pfc. J. E. Stiles Pfc. P. L. Sullivan Pfc. E. J. Swanson Pfc. M. L. Tabor Pvt. C. T. Tacheene *Pfc. A. C. Tobeck *Pfc. S. T. Tran Pfc. L. O. Valdez Pvt. J. A. Valencia Jr. Pfc. B. P. VanDeKreeke Pfc. S. Vanderlaan Pvt. F. Vera Pvt. M. A. Vergara Pvt. B. A. Wallace Pvt. J. M. Walsh Pfc. R. A. Warsing Jr. Pfc. B. J. Washington Pfc. B. A. Watts Pfc. R. L. Wilde Jr. Pvt. B. J. Williamson Pvt. J. M. Windsich Pvt. L. F. Woelick Pvt. R. J. Zahorik | Pvt. M. E. Baumgartner Pvt. A. A. Becker Pfc. J. M. Bemis Pvt. M. K. Jacobs Pfc. C. J. Larson Pfc. J. L. Lavine Pvt. M. K. Luera Pvt. J. T. Manjon Pfc. J. S. Manning Pvt. D. K. Carrera Pvt. E. Carreon Pvt. D. K. Carrera Pvt. R. C. Chemelewski Pfc. A. R. Clausen Pfc. E. W. Collier Pvt. L. J. Cooper Pfc. D. J. Cortez Pvt. P. M. Daly Pvt. M. R. Damico *Pfc. M. J. Dault *Pfc. C. L. Miranda Pvt. A. C. Moore Pvt. J. A. Moore Pvt. S. O. Morgan Pvt. J. R. Myers *Pfc. D. E. Nava Pvt. B. S. Nelson Pvt. A. E. Gault Pvt. M. W. Gill Pfc. M. S. Graham Pvt. T. T. Greenskyheimkes Pvt. K. B. Griffith Pvt. A. A. Hickmon Pvt. E. M. Hurley Pfc. S. C. Hurt Pvt. L. I. Racheta *Pfc. J. C. Iversen Pfc. D. S. Juauez Pvt. N. J. Kick Pvt. K. M. Kilpatrick *Pfc. M. Lao Pvt. C. E. Lopez Pvt. J. P. Lukasek Pfc. A. Martinez Pfc. A. H. Massey Pfc. I. A. Medina Martinez Pfc. T. T. Nitopi Pvt. Z. Noble Pfc. J. A. Odvina Pvt. S. M. Preston Pvt. K. R. Pullin *Pfc. A. R. Restifo Pvt. J. A. Romero Pvt. S. Root Pvt. W. J. Rutherford Pvt. T. R. Saderup Pvt. M. A. Sahagun Pvt. J. I. Sanchez Pfc. D. J. Seely *Pfc. C. D. Seidel Pfc. A. C. Seif Pfc. K. J. Sherman Pvt. C. A. Smith Pvt. S. E. Staats Pfc. J. E. Stiles Pfc. P. L. Sullivan Pfc. E. J. Swanson Pfc. M. L. Tabor Pvt. C. T. Tacheene *Pfc. A. C. Tobeck *Pfc. S. T. Tran Pfc. L. O. Valdez Pvt. J. A. Valencia Jr. Pfc. B. P. VanDeKreeke Pfc. S. Vanderlaan Pvt. F. Vera Pvt. M. A. Vergara Pvt. B. A. Wallace Pvt. J. M. Walsh Pfc. R. A. Warsing Jr. Pfc. B. J. Washington Pfc. B. A. Watts Pfc. R. L. Wilde Jr. Pvt. B. J. Williamson Pvt. J. M. Windsich Pvt. L. F. Woelick Pvt. R. J. Zahorik | *Pfc. D. A. Gee Pfc. J. J. Glass Pvt. D. T. Glewwe Pvt. M. K. Jacobs Pfc. C. J. Larson Pfc. J. L. Lavine Pvt. M. K. Luera Pvt. J. T. Manjon Pfc. J. S. Manning Pvt. D. K. Carrera Pvt. E. Carreon Pvt. D. K. Carrera Pvt. R. C. Chemelewski Pfc. A. R. Clausen Pfc. E. W. Collier Pvt. L. J. Cooper Pfc. D. J. Cortez Pvt. P. M. Daly Pvt. M. R. Damico *Pfc. M. J. Dault *Pfc. C. L. Miranda Pvt. A. C. Moore Pvt. J. A. Moore Pvt. S. O. Morgan Pvt. J. R. Myers *Pfc. D. E. Nava Pvt. B. S. Nelson Pvt. A. E. Gault Pvt. M. W. Gill Pfc. M. S. Graham Pvt. T. T. Greenskyheimkes Pvt. K. B. Griffith Pvt. A. A. Hickmon Pvt. E. M. Hurley Pfc. S. C. Hurt Pvt. L. I. Racheta *Pfc. J. C. Iversen Pfc. D. S. Juauez Pvt. N. J. Kick Pvt. K. M. Kilpatrick *Pfc. M. Lao Pvt. C. E. Lopez Pvt. J. P. Lukasek Pfc. A. Martinez Pfc. A. H. Massey Pfc. I. A. Medina Martinez Pfc. T. T. Nitopi Pvt. Z. Noble Pfc. J. A. Odvina Pvt. S. M. Preston Pvt. K. R. Pullin *Pfc. A. R. Restifo Pvt. J. A. Romero Pvt. S. Root Pvt. W. J. Rutherford Pvt. T. R. Saderup Pvt. M. A. Sahagun Pvt. J. I. Sanchez Pfc. D. J. Seely *Pfc. C. D. Seidel Pfc. A. C. Seif Pfc. K. J. Sherman Pvt. C. A. Smith Pvt. S. E. Staats Pfc. J. E. Stiles Pfc. P. L. Sullivan Pfc. E. J. Swanson Pfc. M. L. Tabor Pvt. C. T. Tacheene *Pfc. A. C. Tobeck *Pfc. S. T. Tran Pfc. L. O. Valdez Pvt. J. A. Valencia Jr. Pfc. B. P. VanDeKreeke Pfc. S. Vanderlaan Pvt. F. Vera Pvt. M. A. Vergara Pvt. B. A. Wallace Pvt. J. M. Walsh Pfc. R. A. Warsing Jr. Pfc. B. J. Washington Pfc. B. A. Watts Pfc. R. L. Wilde Jr. Pvt. B. J. Williamson Pvt. J. M. Windsich Pvt. L. F. Woelick Pvt. R. J. Zahorik | Pfc. H. Y. Almkilani Pvt. C. D. Alvarado Pvt. M. J. Carlson Pvt. J. E. Chandler Pvt. S. Curiel Pvt. N. Dismukes Pvt. N. L. Doeden Pfc. C. R. Dyer Pfc. M. A. Filipiak Pfc. A. V. Gallais |
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*Meritorious promotion

FLEET WEEK GOLF



Sgt. Lynden Gwartney, a depot finance clerk, swings from the fairway on the 18th hole at Admiral Baker Golf Course in San Diego. Lance Cpl. Alicia Small/Chevron

Sailors win enlisted tourney at Admiral Baker

BY LANCE CPL. ALICIA SMALL
Chevron staff

Anxiously holding their breath, three Marines from the depot's finance and travel sections watched silently to see their teammate's putt successfully drop into the hole. Navy, Marines and Coast Guardsmen joined the San Diego Fleet Week celebrations by competing in the San Diego Gas and Electric All-Enlisted Golf Tournament Oct. 3, on the north and south courses of the Admiral Baker Golf Course in San Diego.

The tournament was important because it gave service members a chance to get out of the daily grind and be recognized by the community, said Lance Cpl. Ryan McKinney, travel clerk, MCRD.

There were 72 teams participating in a scramble. Teams consisted of four members of any rank—provided the sum total of all their pay grades together only added up to 21 or less. This was designed to keep the teams diversified.

Navy sailors made up the winning team that scored 64 to take the annual Fleet Week Inter-Service Trophy. A team of drill instructors from the depot also showed their skill when they took second place on the south course.

The tournament helped to bring the local military services together, while allowing the civilian community to do something for them.

"San Diego Gas and Electric was the primary sponsor for the tournament," said Sgt. Maj. Mark Kellison, sergeant major, Headquarters and Headquarters Squadron, Marine Corps Air Station Miramar, Calif.

Service members were treated to a round of golf at the local course by paying a \$5 registration fee, said Kellison. Sponsors then picked up the rest of the tab for each team at about \$200 per team. Kellison said that the community put about \$15,000 into the tournament, awards and the barbeque dinner at the end of the day.

"This is a way for the community to get involved with the military and give something back to them," said Kellison. "It's all part of the Fleet Week celebration."

Through the efforts and generosity of the civilian community, the 4th annual golf tournament was a success.

"The Fleet Week volunteers and staff did an outstanding job in catering to the Marines," said Kellison. "And they put on an absolutely great event."



CURRENT COMMANDING GENERAL'S CUP STANDINGS

| | Team | Placement points | Entry points | Total |
|-----|-------------|------------------|--------------|-------|
| 1st | H&S | 99 | 69 | 194 |
| 2nd | RTR | 79 | 64 | 175 |
| 3rd | COAST GUARD | 38 | 64 | 122 |
| 4th | 12TH MCD | 18 | 73 | 104 |
| 5th | NAVY | 0 | 34 | 34 |